

Application No. 10/620,553

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Official Action mailed on November 3, 2005. This response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 7 and 11-14 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Gruenewald et al. (US 5224468).

Claims 16-19 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Rattner (US 5251630).

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gruenewald et al. in view of Heumann (US 4796613).

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gruenewald et al. in view of Reichenberger (US 4976255).

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gruenewald et al. in view of Krauss (US 5113848).

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gruenewald et al. in view of Krauss and Koehler (US 4972826).

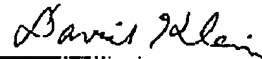
Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gruenewald et al. in view of Zhong (US 5800365).

The above rejections are respectfully traversed. However, for the purposes of expediting allowance of this application, the claims have been cancelled and new claims 20-28 have been presented. None of the cited art and no art known to the Applicant shows the structure claimed in claims 20-28, and accordingly these claims are deemed patentable.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

DEKEL PATENT LTD.

BY 

David Klein, Patent Agent
Reg. No. 41,118

Tel 972-8-949-5334

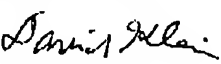
Fax 972-949-5323

E-mail: dekeldtd@netvision.net.il

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David Klein, Reg. No. 41,118
(Name of Applicant's Representative)


(Signature)